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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
OAKLAND DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	CASE NO. 4:19-cv-04281 KAW
)	
Plaintiff,)	STATUS REPORT AND PROPOSED ORDER
)	
v.)	
)	
BTC-e, a/k/a CANTON BUSINESS CORP.,)	
)	
and)	
)	
ALEXANDER VINNIK,)	
)	
Defendants.)	

Plaintiff United States of America (the “United States”) respectfully submits this status report and proposed order pursuant to the Court’s Order dated April 22, 2021. ECF No. 21. The United States continues to work diligently to serve defendants BTC-e, a/k/a Canton Business Corp., and Alexander Vinnik (collectively, “Defendants”) abroad, and respectfully requests that the Court allow the United States to file another status report in ninety (90) days regarding its efforts to complete service on Defendants.

As the United States previously conveyed to the Court, Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4(m) exempts “service in a foreign country” from its time limits. ECF Nos. 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20. Nevertheless, the United States has been attempting to promptly serve Defendants abroad. After the United States filed its complaint on July 25, 2019, and because Defendants were in Greece at that time,

1 the United States began the process of translating the complaint and summons into Greek under the
 2 Convention on the Service Abroad of Judicial and Extrajudicial Documents in Civil or Commercial
 3 Matters (“Hague Service Convention”). In January 2020, after the United States submitted a Request
 4 for Service Abroad of Judicial or Extrajudicial Documents required by the Hague Service Convention,
 5 but before the Greek Central Authority completed service, Defendant Vinnik was extradited to
 6 France. The United States began the process of re-translating the appropriate documents into French
 7 and effectuating service on Defendants in France.

8 As of October 21, 2020, Defendant Vinnik was on trial in France, and the United States reported
 9 to the Court that the outcome of his trial may determine whether he remains in France or is extradited.
 10 On or about December 7, 2020, Defendant Vinnik was convicted and sentenced to a prison term in
 11 France. These developments affected the United States’ ability to complete service on Defendants,
 12 however the United States expects to complete service through appropriate authorities, including by
 13 following the process set forth by the Hague Service Convention. This process remains ongoing.
 14 Accordingly, the United States respectfully requests that the Court allow it to file another status report in
 15 ninety (90) days, or by October 18, 2021, regarding its efforts to serve Defendants.

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 17 Respectfully submitted,

18 STEPHANIE M. HINDS
 19 Acting United States Attorney

20 Dated: July 19, 2021

By: /s/ Savith Iyengar
 21 SAVITH IYENGAR
 22 Assistant United States Attorney
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~~PROPOSED~~ ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that plaintiff United States of America shall file a Status Report by October 18, 2021.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: July 23, 2021



HON. KANDIS A. WESTMORE
United States Magistrate Judge